

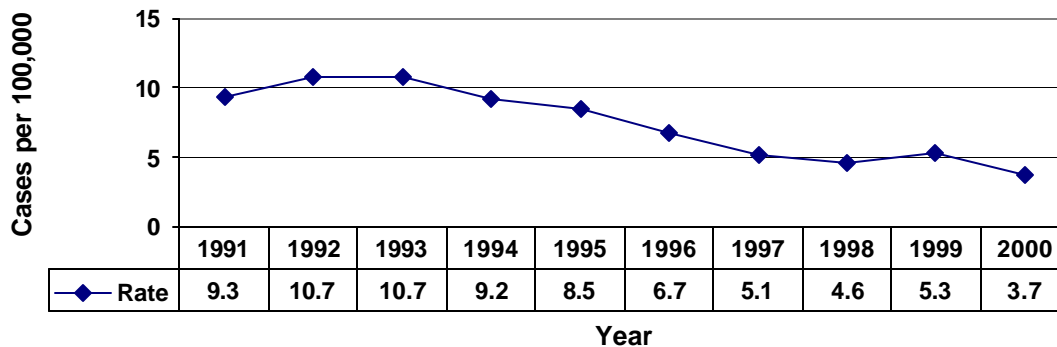
TUBERCULOSIS

Tuberculosis is a bacterial disease usually affecting the lungs (pulmonary TB) caused by organisms in the *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* complex (*M. tuberculosis*, *M. bovis*, and *M. africanum*). Other parts of the body (extrapulmonary TB) also may be affected (e.g., brain, lymph nodes, kidneys, bones, joints, larynx, intestines, eyes). Systemic symptoms include low-grade fever, night sweats, fatigue, and weight loss. In pulmonary or laryngeal TB, there also may be hemoptysis, a persistent and productive cough, chest pain, and shortness of breath. Transmission generally occurs when a susceptible person inhales airborne infectious droplet nuclei from the cough or sneeze of an infectious person.

Laboratory Confirmation by one of the following methods:

- Isolation of *M. tuberculosis* or *M. tuberculosis* complex organisms from a clinical specimen, **OR**
- Demonstration of *M. tuberculosis* from a clinical specimen by nucleic acid amplification test, **OR**
- Demonstration of acid-fast bacilli in a clinical specimen when a culture has not been or cannot be obtained. This criterion has most commonly been used to diagnose tuberculosis in the post mortem setting.

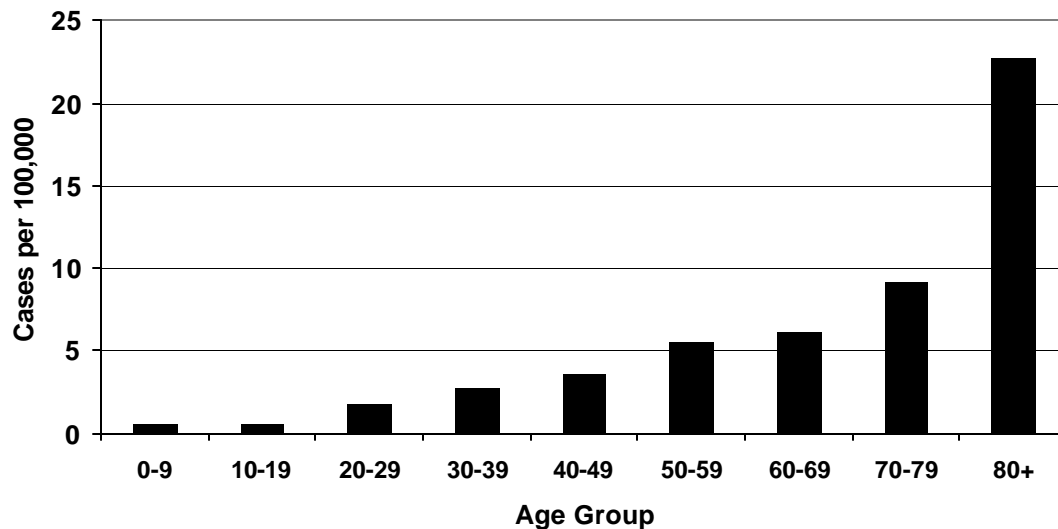
Tuberculosis Incidence, Kentucky 1991-2000



Incidence in Kentucky	2000
Number of Cases	147
Rate per 100,000	3.7
Rate by Gender (per 100,000)	
Female	2.3
Male	5.3
Rate* by Race (per 100,000)	
White (non-hispanic)	3.0
Black (non-hispanic)	7.1
Hispanic	13.3
American Indian or Alaskan Native	11.6
Asian	16.8

*Race rates based on the 2000 population census data.

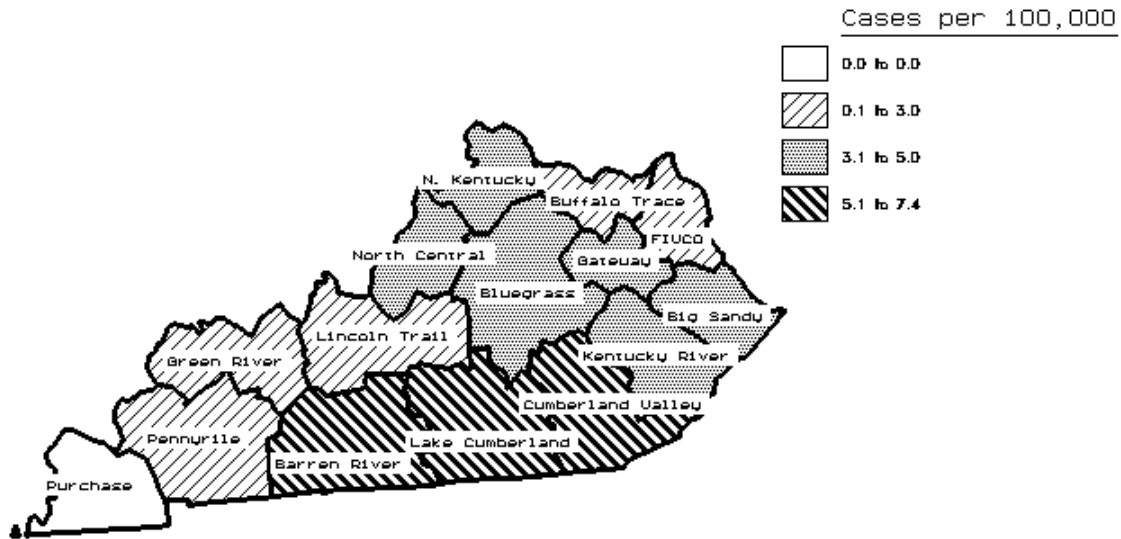
Tuberculosis, Age-Specific Incidence Kentucky, 2000



The incidence of reported tuberculosis cases continues to be highest in persons 80 and older.

Tuberculosis by District, Kentucky Annual Incidence, 2000

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The Lake Cumberland District reported the highest rate of 7.4 cases per 100,000, followed by Cumberland Valley District with a rate of 6.0 cases per 100,000 and Barren River District with a rate of 5.7 cases per 100,000.

The state rate of 3.7 cases per 100,000 is the lowest rate ever reported in Kentucky for tuberculosis cases since national reporting began in 1953.